

## Summary of DAT Conference Call 11/27/2007

Participants: EChappell(DWR), JSpeegle(FWS),  
RGartz(DFG), JWhite(DFG), AChu(DWR),  
JSnow(WWD), LShih(CCWD), EGleason(DFG),  
KTotzke(KCWA), LBartoo(FWS), NHindman(FWS),  
LTran(DWR), KCrosby(BR), BOppenheim(NOAA),  
TBoardman(SLDMWA), TWashburn(BR),  
THinojosa(DWR)

### Conclusions and Recommendation

Spring yearlings were caught in the Mill Creek screw trap but no older juvenile Chinook were caught in the Delta.

DFG completed the November FMWT survey. Four delta smelt were caught in the lower Sacramento River. The index will be posted later this week.

According to the Chinook Salmon Decision Process, the salmon biologists will recommend closing the DCC gates starting December 1<sup>st</sup> for the protection of spring-run yearlings unless there is a water quality issue. However, at this time the EWA salmon biologists are not recommending closing the DCC gates for the following reasons: 1) while the first alert, yearling spring-run observed leaving Mill Creek, was triggered on October 16<sup>th</sup> neither the second or third alert have been triggered; 2) no older juvenile Chinook have been caught in either the Knights Landing rotary screw or the Sacramento River trawl in the last month; 3) the salmon CVPIA Delta Action 8 Experiment (DA8) releases are scheduled to start on December 4<sup>th</sup> and the DA8 protocol specifies the DCC gates to be open; 4) the salmon biologists agreed that the benefit of the information gained from the DA8 experiment outweighed possible impacts to the few older juvenile Chinook expected to pass the DCC gates during this period. The biologist will reconsider this recommendation if the second and third alerts are triggered during the DA8 experiment.

Final copies of the DAT notes are now available on the CALFED Operations website at  
<http://www.woco.water.ca.gov/calfedops/datsummaries.html>.

**Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 12/4/2007, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. 916/657-4111.**

## Chinook Monitoring

### Upper Sacramento River

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – No update.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at [http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special\\_Reports/red\\_bluff.php](http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php).

Mill Creek – Last week the catch increased slightly to 45 yearling spring-run and two steelhead. Flows are low and stable.

Deer Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the flows increase.

Butte Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the flows increase. They will start in the in-river tagging program on January 1<sup>st</sup>.

GCID – The catch of older juvenile Chinook increased slightly ranging from 3 to 50 per day.

Knights Landing – DFG has not caught any Chinook or steelhead in the last month.

### Delta Monitoring

In the last week, FWS caught one older juvenile Chinook in the Chipps Island trawl. No delta smelt, steelhead, or splittail were caught.

Sacramento Kodiak Trawl - 3 sample days, 28 samples. No species of interest.

Lower Sacramento River seine – 1 sample day, 4 samples. No species of interest.

Sacramento Area seine – 3 sample days, 22 samples. No species of interest.

North Delta seine - 1 sample day, 7 samples. No species of interest.

Central Delta seine - 1 sample day, 5 samples. No species of interest.

South Delta seine - 1 sample day, 6 samples. No species of interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl - 3 sample days, 30 samples. No species of interest.

San Joaquin River seine - 1 sample day, 8 samples. No species of interest.

Chippis Island Midwater Trawl - 3 sample days, 32 samples. FWS caught one older juvenile Chinook but no other species of interest.

Bay seine - 1 sample day, 4 samples. No species of interest.

Delta Action 8 – This year the Delta Action 8 experiment will have two release groups. The first release is scheduled for the first week of December with the DCC open, if possible.

Spring Surrogate Releases – FWS released the first spring-run surrogate group of approximately 161,400 late-fall Chinook yesterday, 11/26. The incidental take level at the Delta Fish Facilities for this release group is 1% of the total release. The second surrogate release is scheduled for mid-January.

#### Delta Smelt Monitoring

FMWT – DFG completed the November survey. They caught a total of 4 delta smelt. DFG caught three smelt near Decker Island and one smelt near Sherman Lake. The November delta smelt index will be posted at <http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/data/mwt/> later this week. DFG will conduct the December survey from December 3<sup>rd</sup> to December 14<sup>th</sup>.

DSWG – No update.

#### Salvage Facilities –

Chinook – None.

Steelhead – None.

Delta smelt – None.

Splittail – SWP salvaged 15 splittail in the last week for a season total of 15.

Longfin smelt - None.

Sturgeon – None.

The DFG Salvage Database is available on the DFG ftp site (<ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>).

### Head of Old River and Agricultural Barriers

HORB – No update.

Ag. Barriers – No update.

### Operations

SWP -

CCFB – 3,000cfs.

Oroville - 2,150cfs.

X2 - > 81 km.

E/I - 3-day ~54%

San Luis - ~547taf. SWP share of San Luis capacity is 1,062 taf.

EWA - Preliminary debt estimates as of the end of October are in the range of 30 to 40taf for SWP and approximately 30taf for CVP. DWR continues to finalize the numbers.

CVP -

Tracy PP - 3,700cfs.

DCC - open.

Trinity - 300cfs.

Clear Creek - 200cfs.

Keswick – 5,600cfs. The BR may drop releases by a total of 400cfs by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

Nimbus – 1,250cfs. The power bypass was implemented on Friday, November 9<sup>th</sup> to lower water temperatures on the American. The power bypass releases will drop from 400cfs to 200cfs today and will continue for at least 3 more days. The water temperature at Folsom is 56F and 55F at Hazel.

Goodwin – 280cfs.  
San Luis - 456taf. CVP share of San Luis capacity is 966 taf.

#### Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 10,582cfs.  
Fremont Weir ~ 0.  
San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 1,414cfs.  
Delta Outflow ~ 3,927cfs. The 7-day average is 3,653cfs.

#### Delta Water Quality

The Delta is in balanced conditions. Water quality is okay.

#### December Water Quality Standards –

Delta Outflow – monthly average  $\geq 4,500$ cfs, 7-day average  $\geq 3,500$ cfs.

Delta Cross Channel – The gates may be closed for up to 45 days for the protection of Chinook between November 1<sup>st</sup> and January 31<sup>st</sup>.

E/I Ratio – 65%

Rio Vista – monthly average  $\geq 4,500$ cfs, 7-day average  $\geq 3,500$ cfs.

Contra Costa Canal – CI  $\leq 250$  mg/L. In addition, CI  $\leq 150$  mg/L for 165 days per year. This portion of the standard has been met for the year.

South Delta – 30-day average EC  $\leq 1.0$ .

Suisun Marsh -  $\leq 15.5$ mS/cm.

*Erin Chappell*

Environmental Scientist

DWR-DES

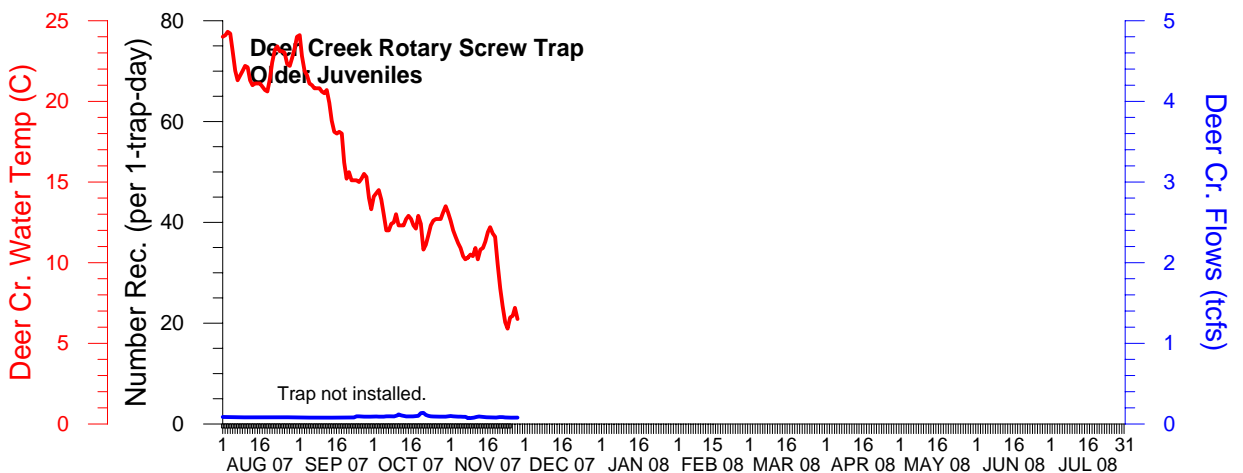
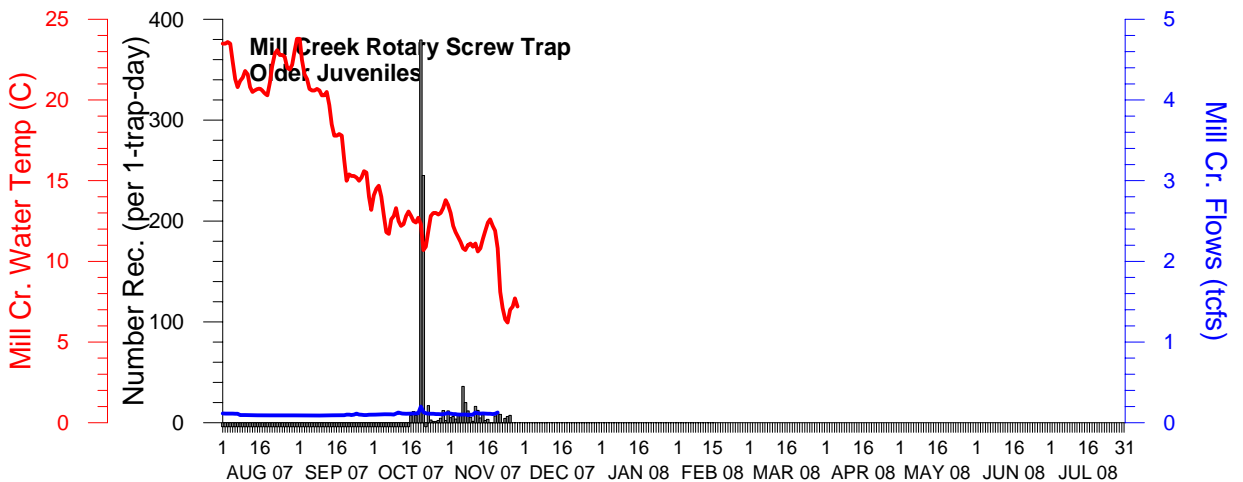
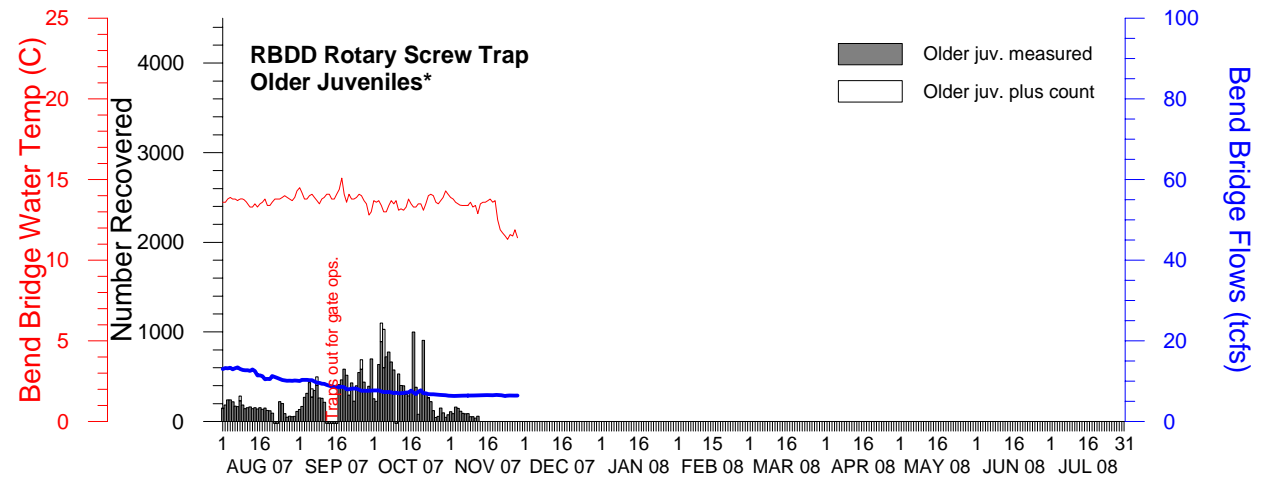
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# NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER & TRIBUTARIES

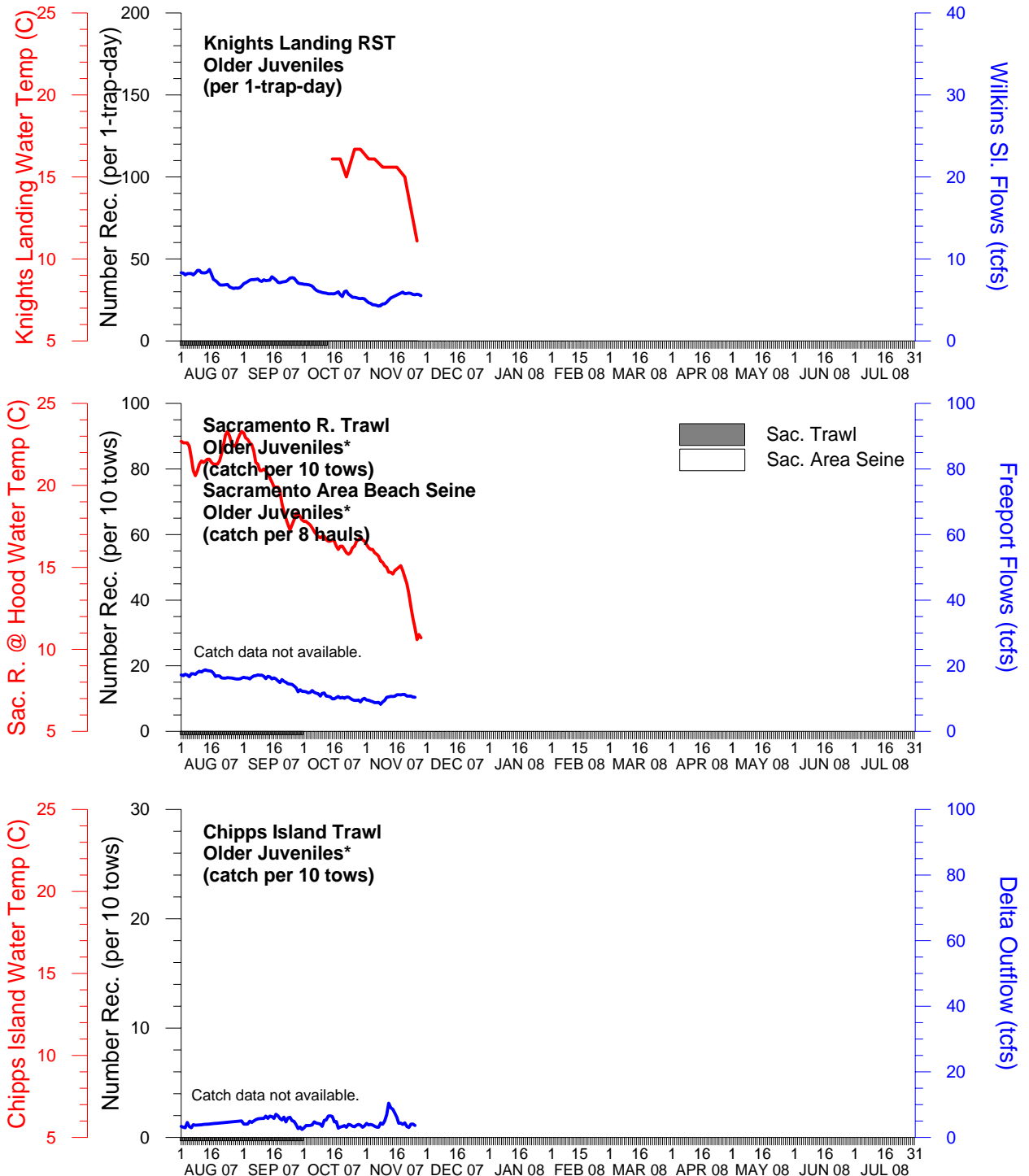


DWR-DES 29 NOV 2007

Preliminary, subject to revision

\*Older juveniles defined as all Chinook above the minimum winter run length line (Frank Fisher model)

# NUMBER OF JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER & DELTA



## **Data Acquisition:**

All the data is preliminary and subject to revision.

The catch data for RBDD, Sacramento River Trawl, Sacramento Area Beach Seine, and Chipps Island were obtained from the BDAT website: <http://baydelta.ca.gov> .

The catch data for Mill and Deer creeks were obtained directly from DFG, Red Bluff Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project.

The catch data for Knights Landing were obtained directly from DFG, Native Anadromous Fish & Watershed Branch.

The hydrology data were obtained from either the CDEC or BDAT websites: <http://cdec.water.ca.gov> or <http://baydelta.ca.gov>.

## **Project Offices:**

Mill Creek - DFG, Red Bluff Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project

Deer Creek - DFG, Red Bluff Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project

RBDD - USFWS, Red Bluff Fish & Wildlife Office

Knights Landing - DFG, Native Anadromous Fish & Watershed Branch

Sacramento Trawl - USFWS, Stockton Office Juvenile Salmon Monitoring

Sacramento Area Beach Seine - USFWS, Stockton Office Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project

Chipps Island Trawl - USFWS, Stockton Office Juvenile Salmon Monitoring Project



# Special Species Salvage

From 23-Nov-07 to 23-Nov-07

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Splittail	SWP				CVP
	~~~~~		~~~~~		~~~~~
	SampleDate	Salvage	Acre Feet	Salvage	Acre Feet
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	11/23/2007	9	5437	0	
Total for Splittail		9	5437	0	

## Sturgeon Salvage – 10/01/2007 – 11/24/2007

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### Green Sturgeon

Sample Date

SWP

CVP

*None observed at either facility*

Total for Green Sturgeon

0

0

### White Sturgeon

Sample Date

SWP

CVP

10/21/2007

6

0

11/01/2007

6

0

11/04/2007

3

0

Total for White Sturgeon

15

0

*November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2007*